

pretations, but the historians mostly seem to prefer to wait yet awhile before adopting his system definitely.

We hope that Prof. Garstang will make further discoveries in the Hittite lands, and can wish him no better luck than that he may speedily render his present book obsolete and out of date. H. H.

MELANESIANS AND POLYNESIANS.¹

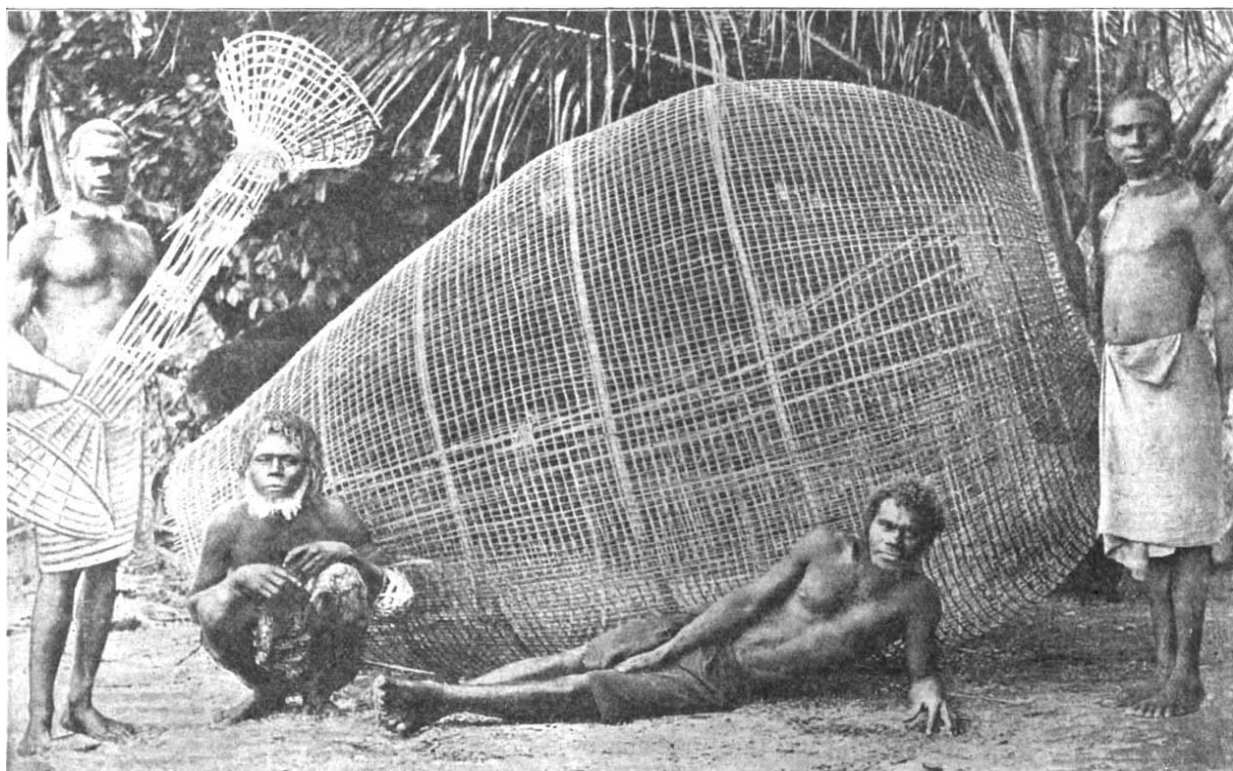
THE veteran missionary who writes this book lived for more than twenty years on the islands of the Pacific, at the time—a generation ago—when the peoples of the western Pacific were scarcely known, when

“ . . . Old and New

Weltered upon the border of the world.”

Much of his time was spent in New Britain, more in Samoa, and the natives of these places are the people whom he means when he speaks of Mela-

part of the book, that dealing with Melanesia, it is obvious that Dr. Brown has given us a record of what he himself saw or was told during the five years he spent in New Britain, but with the exception to be presently noted he has made no attempt to correlate his own observations with those of other observers, nor does he supplement them by considering the work of others, even when they deal with the very ceremonies he describes. Thus it comes about that the value of one of the most interesting chapters in the book, that dealing with secret societies, is lessened, for though it gives an account of the Dukduk, no mention is made of Parkinson's work. On the other hand, Dr. Brown has not hesitated to avail himself of information given him by colleagues, or when necessary to seek their assistance. These remarks indicate the scope of the work and its limitations, which will be felt by few except specialists working at the history of the Pacific.



Fish Trap, New Britain. From "Melanesians and Polynesians."

nesians and Polynesians. Dr. Brown has also visited the New Hebrides, Santa Cruz, New Ireland, New Hanover, New Guinea, and the atolls of Ontong, Java, and the Tasman group. In the introduction the author disclaims "pet theories"; nevertheless he gives us (pp. 15-17) the theory as to the origin of the Melanesian and Polynesian races, which he published in the *Journal of the Anthropological Institute* in 1887. Much water has flowed under the bridges since then, and it is at least a pity that Dr. Brown does not discuss (except briefly in the concluding chapter) some of the facts which do not support his views.

A certain looseness of terminology, most pronounced in the pages referred to, also crops up in other parts of the book. Considering especially the most valuable

A more detailed examination of the contents of the volume shows that it contains a large amount of new information, not only valuable in itself, but bearing also on work being done at the present time, or which must be done in the near future. There is an extremely interesting account by an eye-witness of the death and cremation of the celebrated Shortland chief Gorai, whose importance may be gauged by the fact recorded by Guppy, that the houses of his wives and children occupied more than an acre of ground.

Several interesting examples of the widely-spread Melanesian custom of burial, accompanied by the removal and preservation of the skull of the deceased, are recorded. On Duke of York Island the body of a chief or person of importance was exposed on a specially built platform until the head could be detached, when it was preserved by the

¹ "Melanesians and Polynesians," their Life-histories described and compared. By George Brown. Pp. xv+451. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd., 1910). Price 12s. net.

nearest relative, while the remains were buried in the house. On Ysabel (Solomon Islands) and also in Aneityum (New Hebrides) the body was buried in such a position that the head could be severed from the trunk, which was not itself exposed. At Ysabel the process was accelerated by lighting fires round the exposed head, from which the scorched flesh was easily peeled. At Aneityum female mourners watched the head until the soft tissues had decomposed. A special interest attaches to both these methods, since they contrast with the disposal of the dead by cremation practised in some of the western Solomons and New Ireland, while they agree in principle and in some degree in detail, with the methods of inhumation accompanied by the preservation of the skulls in vogue among the archipelagoes lying off the eastern extremity of New Guinea. These facts support a view held by the reviewer that the inhabitants of the Solomon Islands will be found to be divisible into two ethnic groups, the dividing line falling somewhere in the neighbourhood of the line of political division.

Dr. Brown mentions that on his early journeys in New Britain he was able to buy fowls of a small white breed in large numbers, and he suggests that these were indigenous. The interest of this observation is greatly increased by the fact that in many parts of eastern British New Guinea the natives maintain that thirty or forty years ago they possessed a breed of pure white fowls.

No praise could be too high for the plates with which this book is abundantly illustrated. One picture shows four men of the remote islet Lua Niua (Ontong Java), who speak a language "very closely related to the Samoan." So far as the writer knows this is the first adequate portrait to be published of these Polynesians, stranded long ago in Melanesia, who although they have retained their Polynesian features appear to have come into intimate contact with Melanesians since, as Dr. Brown informs us, they are divided into two exogamous classes. An alternate explanation favoured by Dr. Brown is that they are descended from a group of exogamous castaways from the Ellice group, who, it is assumed, were derived from Samoa at a time when that island was inhabited by a people having an exogamous clan organisation.

Two unfortunate slips occur in the description of the plates. The masks and figures shown in the upper figure facing p. 238 are from New Ireland (not from New Guinea), and the two masks facing p. 316, also attributed to New Guinea, certainly do not come from there. An insufficient index gives an inadequate idea of the real value of the book.

C. G. S.

THE BUSINESS SIDE OF A UNIVERSITY.¹

UP to the present time the development of the American university system has proceeded mainly by the multiplication of universities, and by increase in their endowments. The cost of university education has, however, steadily risen everywhere; and while it has been possible up till now to provide for expansion by increased contributions of funds from outside, it is clear that a limit exists to the possibilities of further increase. It follows that the question as to whether the efficiency of American universities can be increased by a better use of their existing resources is an important question which may become urgent in the future, even if it has not done so in the past.

Under the auspices of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, a report has been drawn

¹ "Academic and Industrial Efficiency." A Report to the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. By M. L. Cooke. Pp. vii + 234. (New York City, 1910.)

up on "Academic and Industrial Efficiency." The author, Mr. Morris Llewellyn Cooke, claims to have studied the problem practically exclusively from the point of view of a business man, while freely admitting that there are other aspects of the question not dealt with in his report. In order to collect information, he visited eight universities and colleges, and in every case chose the department of physics for his inquiries, on the ground that the conditions prevailing in this department might be regarded as typical of those prevailing generally in the work of all departments. He notices a certain lack of intensiveness in the work of the colleges, and while admitting that a considerable amount of leisure is wanted for the teaching staff and those engaged in private research, points out that this affords no reason why janitors and gardeners should not carry on their duties out of lecture hours.

On the difficult question of administration, Mr. Cooke expresses fairly definite views. Three methods of administration are possible: firstly, "committee management"; secondly, what he calls the "military type," in which the whole of the direction falls on the shoulders of one man; and thirdly, what Mr. Cooke describes as "functional" management, in which the responsibility is divided amongst a number of individuals, each having complete authority over a limited range of duties. Observing that the system of government by committees does not prevail in the business world, the author objects to this system on the ground that it tends to produce lack of initiative, departmental autonomy, and lack of authority on the part of the heads of departments, especially in the matter of discipline when their decisions are liable to revision at the hands of a board or committee. The functional system is considered to be the best, though the author admits that the other systems are in many cases working well, and better than he would have expected.

Under the heading, "The College Teacher as a Producer," Mr. Cooke refers to the difficulty of increasing the efficiency of professors so long as their duties are so multifarious and varied as they are at present. He is quite astonished at the number of tasks they have to perform. Teaching, research, and administration alone form a group of duties, of which it is difficult for the same individual to combine more than two efficiently. But, in addition, it is becoming increasingly important for the professor to keep himself in touch with what is being done elsewhere, and this involves study of pedagogic methods as well as of the literature of his own subject. Moreover, the committee system, where it exists, makes increasing demands on his time. Yet Mr. Cooke finds professors spending time in taking inventories, keeping track of appropriations, mimeographing examination papers, and handling routine correspondence. "These things," he points out, "are clerical work, and should be handled outside of the teaching field, and not as a part of the teacher's duties." Further on he observes: "The high-priced presidents of our railways, banks, and steel companies would not dream of performing this variety of functions. They would refuse to do so, because they know they could not do them well. This part of raising the efficiency of the college professor will have to be done by building up central agencies for doing much of the work he does now, and for doing it so much better than he possibly can, that he will be glad to relinquish his responsibilities in these respects."

Passing on to the question of "research," the author directs attention to the danger which exists of sacrificing efficiency in other directions, especially in class-teaching, by attaching exaggerated importance to work of a research character. Mr. Cooke is here